(c) whether Government have Received a number pf representations artd requests from various sections of affected persons *tor* redressing their grievances for pen sions,

(d) whether effective action has not yet been taken to direct the concerned department for following the rules of liberal feed pension scheme of Govern ment of India; and

(e) if so. the facts and details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) No.' Sir.

(b) The Cantonment Boards - function under the overall control of the Central Government.

(c) to (e) Yes. Sir. Representations were received for extension of ex-gratia pen sionary benefits to the widows and de pendents of the deceased retired emplo yees of the Cantonment Boards who; were subscribing to the Contributory Provident Fund; provision of pensionary benefit to the employees of the Boards who retired prior to 1st May, 1976 as well as expeditious finalisation of pen sionary claims.

A" per policy, employees, of the Can tonment Boards who had retired piror to Ist ?':,y. 1976, are not er titled to the pensV'.i scheme intraduced w.e.f. 1st May, 1976. as they had already been paid :11 l he benefits admissible to them under the existing CPF scheme. A decison on in the matter of ex-gratia pay-mem to the deceased employees of the Cantonment Boards prior to 1st May, 1976 is linked with the financial condition of the Cantonment Boards, Neces-sary instructionsi have been issued by the> Director General Defence Estates to the authorities concerned for expeditiousprocess of finalisation of pension classes admissible under th$_{e}$ rules.

Unserviceable tanks kept at Kirkee

2338. SHRI RAMNATH KOVTND: Will the PRIME -MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Armoured Fighting Vehicles (Tanks) of various types of 2nd World War Vintage held in unser-viceable/beyond repair condition/obso-lute type at Central Armoured Fighting Vehicle Depot (unfit vehicle park) at Kirkee;

(b) what is the total area occupied (both covered and uncovered) by these unfit vehicles;

(c) the establishment sanctioned for watch and ward and holding/stockini> (store keeper and security) of these vehicles and what is the recurring annua! expenditure for the same; and

(d) whether these equipments have any use in future and if not, the reasons for which these are kept?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) There are 10 such Armoured Fighting Vehicles (AFVJ of Second World War vintage in Central Armouerd Fighting Vehicle Depot, Kirkee.

(b) These vehicles are occupying ap-proximately 400 Sequare Metres of open space.

(c) No security personnel have been sanctioned specifically to guard these vehicles. The' sanctioned securities personnel are for the security of the entire compound and holdhgs of the Depot. As such no extra expenditure is being incurred on guarding these vehicles.

(d) These vehicles have been earmarked for handiug over to the War Museums for display.